Proposal for amending the Child Labour Act, 1986

1599. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the surveyed/estimated number of the child labour in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Child Labour Act, 1986 is effective enough to curb child labour problem;

(c) if so, why the child labour laws issue is becoming very alarming;

(d) if not, is there any proposal with Government to make labour laws more effective and stringent by amending the Act; and

(e) by what time Government are proposed to eliminate the child labour at least in hazardous industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) As per the 1991 census, the total number of working children in the country is 11.28 million. State-wise, number of working children is detailed in the statement. (*see* below)

(b) and (c) Under Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 employment of children below the age of 14 is prohibited in 13 occupations and 51 processes. The employment conditions of children in other occupations and processes are regulated under the Act. Employers employing children in occupations and processes prohibited under the Act are liable for prosecution. The Central Government and State/UT Governments have enforcement machineries to enforce child related provisions of the laws. The Central Government monitors implementation of the provisions of the Act through periodical returns.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Child Labour is a deep rooted socio-economic problem which needs sustained efforts over a long period of time. Hence, fixing of a time frame would not be feasible.

Statement

State-wise Distribution of Working Children According to 1991 Census

State/Union Territories	.....1991..... Main Workers	Marginal Workers	Total Workers
1. Andhra Pradesh	1,537,293	124,647	1,661,940
2. Assam	259,953	67,645	327,598
3. Bihar	795,444	1,46,801	942,245
4. Gujarat	373,027	150,558	523,585
5. Haryana	89,030	20,661	109,691
6. Himachal Pradesh	30,771	25,667	56,438
7. Jammu and Kashmir	**	**	**
8. Karnataka	818,159	158,088	976,247
9. Kerala	28,590	6,210	34,800
10. Madhya Pradesh	997,940	354,623	1,352,563
11. Maharashtra	805,847	262,571	1,068,418
12. Manipur	13,478	3,015	16,493
13. Meghalaya	30,730	3,903	34,633
14. Nagaland	16,106	370	16,476
15. Orissa	325,250	127,144	452,394
16. Punjab	132,414	10,454	142,868
17. Rajasthan	490,522	283,677	774,199
18. Sikkim	5,254	344	5,598
19. Tamilnadu	523,125	55,764	578,889
20. Tripura	13,506	2,972	16,478
21. Uttar Pradesh	1,145,087	264,999	1,410,086

State/Union Territories	Main Workers	Marginal Workers	Total Workers
22. West Bengal	593,387	118,304	711,691
23. Andaman & Nikobar Island	758	507	1,265
24. Arunachal Pradesh	11,632	763	12,395
25. Chandigarh	1,839	31	1,870
26. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2,677	1,739	4,416
27. Delhi	26,670	681	27,351
28. Daman and Diu	741	200	941
29. Goa	3,938	718	4,656
30. Lakshadweep	17	17	34
31. Mizoram	6,391	10,020	16,411
32. Pondicherry	2,565	115	2,680
TOTAL	9,082,141	2,203,208	11,285,349

**Census could not be conducted.

NB: Figures for 1991 relates to workers of age group 5—14 years.

Unemployed Youths in Andhra Pradesh

1600. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of youths registered with employment exchanges in Andhra Pradesh, district-wise and category-wise;

(b) the number of youths given employment during the last three years, district-wise;

(c) whether any scheme/programme is under consideration of Government to provide the employment opportunities to them; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?